

Senate Resolution 1186

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Hawkins of the 49th, Thomas of the 54th, Goggans of the 7th, Shafer of the 48th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the importance of healthy lifestyles and proper personal prescription medication
2 administration by Georgians; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, high blood pressure can lead to stroke, heart attack, heart failure, and kidney
4 failure; and

5 WHEREAS, one in three Americans, 74 million, have high blood pressure and 20 percent
6 do not know it; and

7 WHEREAS, high blood pressure can be lowered and managed with lifestyle changes and,
8 if necessary, medication; and

9 WHEREAS, the leading cause of death in the State of Georgia is heart disease, with 32
10 percent of deaths in this state being related to heart disease, bringing Georgia to 41st in
11 America's Health Rankings; and

12 WHEREAS, each year, the burden of the chronic problem of heart disease costs \$9.6 billion
13 in Georgia; and

14 WHEREAS, the human and economic costs of chronic heart disease can be significantly
15 lowered by proper adherence to prescribed medication; and

16 WHEREAS, adherence programs such as Your Medication Matters, which raises awareness
17 about the importance of taking prescription medications as directed, can have significant
18 positive effects on patients' lives and overall health care costs; and

19 WHEREAS, Your Medication Matters is an invaluable program that helps save lives, and
20 employers are encouraged to adopt this program or a similar prescription drug education
21 program to reduce the burden of chronic disease and to promote a healthier Georgia.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
23 recognize the chronic health issues facing Georgians and the valuable programs available to
24 curb the rate of chronic diseases in this state.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
26 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to members of the public and the press.